

programs can also use the grant to establish their own program. The bill will also create a task force at the Department of Education to support the development of the Modeling and Simulation field, including helping to further define the study and identify the best practices of Modeling and Simulation.

I am proud to represent the people and businesses of the Third Congressional District of Virginia who are leading the way in the Modeling and Simulation field. Numerous colleges and universities in the Hampton Roads area, such as Hampton University, Norfolk State University, and Old Dominion University, have Modeling and Simulation programs. Old Dominion University is one of the few universities that has both an undergraduate degree program and a graduate degree program in Modeling and Simulation. ODU's Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center in Suffolk, Virginia is a premier facility that is second to none.

The grant program established by this legislation will go a long way in helping universities that have Modeling and Simulation programs expand and enhance their programs, as well as helping universities without a Modeling and Simulation program establish their own program. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that the United States maintains its competitive advantage in the critical national technology field of Modeling and Simulation.

GERALDINE GENNET

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues, I commend Geraldine Gennet for her outstanding service and dedication to the House of Representatives.

In her 11 years as General Counsel of the House, Geraldine set a standard for professionalism and non-partisanship that will inform the work of the new General Counsel and all future holders of that position.

She created an Office of General Counsel that is respected by all Members of the House and widely recognized for its excellence throughout the legal community. I wish Geraldine continued success and happiness in her new endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD AND
JENNIFER MILNE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ronald and Jennifer Milne, residents of Perry, Iowa, on recently becoming United States citizens.

Both Ronald and Jennifer are originally from Scotland. Ronald was naturalized on June 29, 2007, in Des Moines, while Jennifer was later naturalized on September 17, 2007 in West Branch, Iowa. The long journey to U.S. citizenship began in the late 1980's when their son was attending Dartmouth College and later

married an American woman. Their daughter also came to America and eventually married an American. After Ronald and Jennifer made several trips to the United States to visit their children, they decided they wanted to be close to their family and move to America.

After years of filling out forms, interviews with the American Embassy, waiting for the processing of their papers, passing the American History test, and paying naturalization fees, Ronald and Jennifer's citizenship was finally granted.

The Milne's love for their family and for this country is extremely admirable, and I commend Ronald and Jennifer for all their hard work and commitment to becoming citizens of our country. I am extremely honored to represent the Milnes in the U.S. Congress and I know that I can speak for all of my colleagues here in officially welcoming them as American citizens. I wish Ronald, Jennifer and their family all the best as Americans and Iowans.

HONORING MARY BERGAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Ms. Mary Bergan, who has dutifully served and enriched the California Federation of Teachers and the labor movement for over 35 years. Her work has affected the lives of teachers and their students throughout the 9th Congressional District, and the great State of California.

Ms. Mary Bergan has been involved in community politics, volunteerism, and education for her entire adult life. After graduating from the prestigious University of California, Berkeley in 1965 with a B.A. in English, Mary promptly joined the Peace Corps. For 3 years Mary lived in Malaysia teaching English language and literature and coaching athletics. In this way, Mary has always been acutely aware of the importance of both healthy minds and bodies for her students. When Mary returned to the United States she became a teacher, and immediately started organizing for the California Federation of Teachers, CFT.

For more than three decades her passion and activism has rightly placed her in leadership positions throughout the State of California, both within her profession as an educator and within the greater Democratic Party. In 1976, while Jerry Brown was Governor of California, Ms. Bergan was chosen as a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions. Shortly after, in the 1980's, Mary was elected as the chair of the Labor Caucus of the California Democratic Party. She continued her role as a delegate at the Democratic National Conventions in 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004.

In 1991 Mary took her leadership skills, compassion, and dedicated experience to task. She was elected by her peers as president of the CFT. Only a year later, in 1992, Mary was elected vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, AFT, a national position of both great prestige and great responsibility. Not satisfied merely holding a title or position, Mary has participated in and continues to serve in numerous capacities within the AFT. She is a member of the Teachers

Program and Policy Council, where she serves primarily on the council's working group on early childhood education. She is also a member of the organizing committee, the Task Force on Health Care Reform, and the State Federations Advisory Committee.

When she was elected president of the CFT Ms. Bergan pledged "to renew the organization's commitment to excellence in education, to reinforce its efforts to increase education funding and to raise the organization's profile in the media and public eye." This is exactly what Mary has done, and continues to do. She is an outspoken advocate of our children and the conditions of our teachers.

Mary has always been quick to respond to the political issues of the day which most affect education, and she continues to be famously truthful and clear in those responses. Mary does not play with words, she does not play games with her positions on issues, and she does not play with the futures of our children and teachers. Mary has long known that the better the conditions are for our teachers, the better our schools will be. Ultimately, taking care of our teachers affords our students the greatest opportunities for success in their own lives.

A true servant educator in every sense, Mary Bergan has immeasurably contributed to our community, our State, and our Nation. On behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I thank and applaud Mary Bergan for the more than 35 years of unwavering service and inspiration.

RECOGNIZING NEWARK'S NORTH
WARD CENTER'S ANNUAL GENO
BARONI BIRTHDAY CELEBRA-
TION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker. I rise today to recognize the annual celebration at the North Ward Center in Newark, New Jersey honoring the birthday of its inspiration, Monsignor Geno Baroni, on November 15, 2007. Msgr. Baroni—Geno to those of us who knew and loved him—was a most remarkable man, and though he passed from this life more than two decades ago, his memory and his mission remain strong.

Following riots at the end of the 1960s, Msgr. Baroni convinced Stephen Aduato, Sr. to leave the Newark public schools and organize the North Ward Educational and Cultural Center. In 1970, the center began providing information on services available to the residents of Newark's north ward, with a particular emphasis on higher education opportunities for students.

Built on the principles of community, opportunity, responsibility, and equity, the North Ward Center remains true to its mission "to provide educational, cultural, and meaningful social services to low and moderate income families who reside in the greater Newark community. The center plays a major role in helping families overcome barriers to self-sufficiency, works to improve the health and well-being of those families, and helps revitalize their community, thereby improving the quality of life for all residents."